

Abstract

A downwardly opening upper channel member (10) is positioned above an upwardly opening lower channel member (12). A lower end portion of the stud (14) is received in the lower channel member (12). An insert (54) is received in the upper channel member (10) at the location of each stud (14). Each insert (54) cooperates with the flanges (20, 22) of the upper channel member (10) to form a plurality of vertical sockets (102), one for each of the studs (14). Upper end portions of the studs (14) extend into the sockets (102). In a wall construction, wall board sheeting (WS) is connected to the stud (14) and the lower channel member (12) but not to the upper channel member (10) or the insert (54). As a result, relative vertical movement is permitted between the upper channel member (10) and the rest of the wall which include the studs (14), the lower channel member (12) and the wall board sheeting (WS).